

#6
MOONSTONE
\$3.50

THE PHANTOM™



Rafael Nieves
Jerry DeCaire

THE PHANTOM

created by LEE FALK

"DAMNATION GAME"

PART TWO OF TWO

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AND **ED RHOADES**

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JOHANNSEN MEDICAL
CENTER, CHICAGO.
MIDNIGHT.

THIS IS
HORRIBLE!

I THINK
I'M FALLING
IN LOVE
WITH THIS
BEAST!

YEAH, HE
DOES HAVE A
CERTAIN... CHARM.
FOR A WOLF,
I MEAN.

SO, WHAT
DO YOU THINK IS
GOING ON? REALLY?
WITH PALMER, MR.
WALKER, MASON AND
ALL THAT?

OH, MAN, I HAVE
NO IDEA. WHATEVER
IT IS THOUGH IS VERY
WEIRD, VERY SCARY,
AND VERY NEW
TO ME.

YEAH. HMPF.
AND HERE WE ARE
ON THE SIDELINES.
HOPE WE SEE SOME
ACTION SOON.

MADRE DE
DIOS!

HEY,
YOU HEAR
SOMETHING?







...MENTE...





OH, SNAP.
THIS IS
BAD.

THINK
WE CAN REACH
AGENT
PALMER?

DUNNO.
NOT SURE IF
HE'S LANDED IN
D.C. YET.



THIS ONE IS
IRREFUTABLY
DEAD.



...I THINK
HE WAS PART
OF THE
PROBLEM.

"WAS"
BEING THE
OPERATIVE,
HERE.

SHOULD
WE CONTACT
MASON?
THINK HE CAN
HELP?

I DON'T
THINK MASON
WILL BE PART OF
THE SOLUTION,
PARTNER...



WE GOT
TWO PLAYERS
MISSING. THE
WOLF AND WALKER.
YOU CLOCK THE HAT
AND COAT ON THE
CHAIR, THERE?

SO, WHERE
ARE THEY?



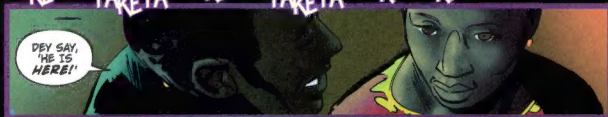
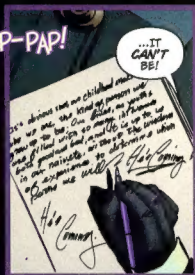
YEAH.

'MEMBER
HOW YOU SAID
MR. WALKER
WAS A
DANGEROUS
MAN?

I THINK
HE JUST GOT
DANGEROUSER.











...EH EH EH
EH... BEH-
EH...

...BUH BEH
BUH BEH BUH
BEH... BEH-
BEH...

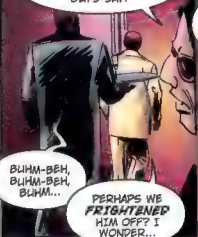
YEAH... OKAY...
BUT HE'S TOAST,
RIGHT? ...YEAH
OKAY, WELL, KEEP
AN EYE OUT,
YEAH?



WHAT NEWS,
SANTOS?
MAKE IT
GOOD.

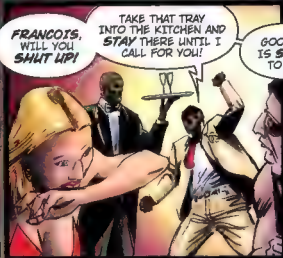
OKAY, **MASON'S**
BEEN HIT, BUT LOOKS LIKE
HE GOT THE LITTLE GUY. TWO
OF PALMER'S PEOPLE ARE
THERE. PALMER'S ON HIS WAY
TO **WASHINGTON**, SO
NO WORRIES.

NO SIGN OF HIS
FRIEND, THOUGH. LOOKS
LIKE HE **BOLTED**. LEAST,
THAT'S WHAT MY
GUYS SAY.



BUHM-BEH,
BUHM-BEH,
BUHM...

PERHAPS WE
FRIGHTENED
HIM OFF? I
WONDER...



FRANCOIS,
WILL YOU
SHUT UP!

TAKE THAT TRAY
INTO THE KITCHEN AND
STAY THERE UNTIL I
CALL FOR YOU!

GOOD HELP
IS SO HARD
TO FIND.

...BUHM-BETTA
BUHM-BETTA BUHM-
BETTA BUHM-BETTA
BUHM-BUHM!





LET'S
JUST GET
THIS STUFF
AND GO,
MAN!

BOLO!
HOLD
'EM!

HEY,
MAN, WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!

DUDE, WE
DIDN'T DO
NOTHIN'!

NAW, MAN,
I--ARGH!
--WE DIDN'T
KNOW!

HE'S
HURTING US!
LEMMIE GO,
DUDE! WE'LL
GET THE REST,
HONEST!



YOU BOYS
IS SHORT.
TRYIN' TO RIP
ME OFF?



C'MON, NOW!
YOU WASTIN' MY
TIME HERE. THE
DRAGON DONT PLAY
GAMES. AINT NO 'NEXT
TIME' WITH HIM.
YOU NEED A
LESSON.

CRUSH
'EM, BOLO.



NYA-

RRROWW!



GET'IM OFF,
GET'IM OFF!

WHERE
IS PAOLO
MBEYE?



WHERE
IS PAOLO
MBEYE?



WHO'S
THAT?

WHO CARES?!
KICK HIS ASS, MAN!
HAH! NOW YOU GUYS
ARE GONNA GET IT!



WHERE
IS PAOLO
MBEYE?

HE WAS
TRYING TO
KILL US!

YEAH!
HE TOLD
THIS-- THING
TO CRUSH
US!

YOU GUYS
BETTER LET US
GO NOW OR HE'S
GONNA REALLY
LET YOU HAVE
IT!

-SOB-
WHO, MAN, I
DUNNO WHATCHU
TALKIN ABOUT,
PLEASE GET HIM
OFFA ME, AW-IGHT,
PLEASE!



BE
QUIET.

YOU DID
THIS TO
YOURSELVES.



DEVIL HASN'T
EATEN TODAY, AND
HE'S NOT VERY
PARTICULAR. NOW
WHERE IS PAOLO
MBEYE?

OH, AND
LET THOSE
KIDS GO.



GO.
NEXT TIME
YOU WON'T
BE SO
LUCKY.

THANKS,
MISTER.
HEY, WHAT
ABOUT OUR
MONEY?

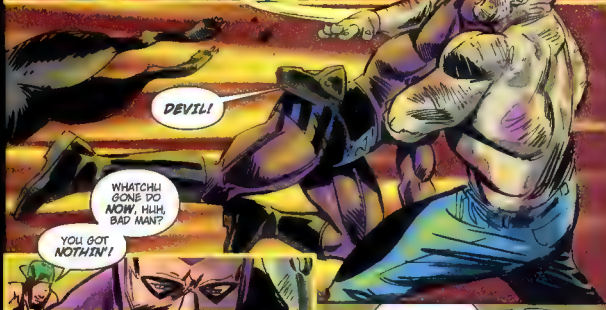
GO!



OOF!

NOW YOU
GONE GIT
IT, MAN!

THROW THAT
DOG AWAY,
BOLO!



DEVIL!

WHATCHU
GONE DO
NOW, HUH,
BAD MAN?

YOU GOT
NOTHIN'!



... HELLO?
...YEAH, IT'S
MOOKY,
MAN...

IT'S BAD, DUDE,
HE TOOK OUT
BOLO... I DON'T
KNOW, SOME
BADASS!

WHAT...
WALKER? YO,
I DIN'T ASK
HIS NAME,
AW-IGHT?

TELL
MR. MBEYE...
TELL MR. MBEYE
THAT JUSTICE
IS COMING...

NO, NO,
LISTEN... I GOT
A MESSAGE FOR
MR. MBEYE,
YO...

"...JUSTICE
IS COMING
TONIGHT!"

PAOLO MBEYE'S
MANSION. 2 A.M.

-- BRINGING YOU
ANOTHER **DOUBLE
SHRUNKEN-
HEADER** FROM THE
MIDNIGHT THEATER
ARCHIVES...

--LLO, BOILS AND
GHOULS, THIS IS
YOUR OLD FIEND
FANNIE FANG--

...IT'S GONNA
BE A **BLAST!**

KRASSSSSH!!

FIRST UP WE HAVE
DEVIL MAY CARE,
STARRING PETER
CUSHION...

CHECK
UPSTAIRS.

...FOLLOWED BY
JUNGLE VENGEANCE,
WITH CRISTOBEL LEE
AND PIETR FALK!

SO, SIT BACK AND ENJOY
THE SHOW, KIDS, IT'S
GONNA GET WIL--



BLAM!

K-POW!
K-POW!

K-POW! BLAM!

K-POW!

K-POW!

CLIK!

CLIK-CLIK!

K-CHK!
K-CHK!

UNH-UNH-
UNH!

DON'T
DO IT, 'MANO.
IT'LL ONLY
BRING YOU
PAIN.

OH, MAN, THA'S
A PRETTY COSTUME
YOU GOT! PURPLE
IS YOUR COLOR,
DEFINITELY.

I DON'T KNOW
WHO YOU ARE,
MISTER, AND I DON'T
CARE, BUT YOU MESSED
WITH THE **WRONG**
MAN THIS TIME.

WHERE
IS PAOLO
MBEYE?

WHAT?
YOU GOT A PIECE
POINTED DEAD ATCHA,
AND YOU STILL
GONNA ASK ME
QUESTIONS?

OH, WOW,
YOU **DURO**, BRO;
A HARD MAN.
STRONG,
YOU KNOW?

LISTEN,
MAN, LEAWE ASK
YOU 'SOMETHIN'
NOW, 'KAY?

YOU SOME
KINDA **HERO**,
RIGHT?

WHO'S
GONNA SAVE
YOU?



HE'S GONNA
EAT ME! HELP
ME, MAN, PLEASE!
GET HIM OFFA
ME!



PLEASE
MAN, C'MON!

SNIF



~SNIF~
YOU GOING
TO KILL
ME?

GET OUT.
NOW.

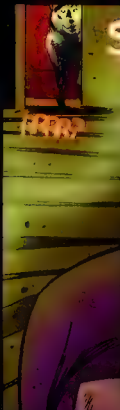


JENNY!
HELP ME,
GIRL!

SCREW
YOU, MAN,
I'M OUTTA
HERE!



SNIF





© CLIK
CLIK
CLIK

THUM-UM-UM
THUM-UM-UM

DULLES AIRPORT.
WASHINGTON, D.C.
2 AM.



GREAVES,
WHAT IS GOING ON
THERE? I'VE JUST LEFT
A MEETING AND I'VE
GOT 23 VOICE
MESSAGES ON
MY CELL!

...I KNOW MASON IS
DEAD... **OLALLA**, TOO...
JUST GOT THE REPORT...
YEAH, THEY'RE **ALREADY**
AT MASON'S HOUSE...



...WHAT?...
REALLY, WELL, THAT'S
GOOD NEWS I
GUESS...

YES, SIR, A
MILLION DOLLARS
IN CASH AND A FILING
CABINET FULL OF
DOCUMENTATION
WOULD ENSURE
INDICTMENT, IF
MASON WERE STILL
ALIVE...

...YES, SIR, **THEY'RE**
HERE... **COUGHLIN** IS...
NO, THEY DON'T KNOW
EVERYTHING, HE'S PLAYING
DUMB RIGHT NOW...
THAT'S NOT NICE, SIR...

JUST KEEP **STALLING**, WE NEED
A LITTLE LEAD TIME HERE, **GREAVES**.
AS SOON AS YOU CAN, I WANT YOU
AND **COUGHLIN** TO TAKE THE PH--
MR. WALKER, OVER TO--

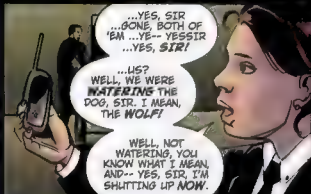
WHAT?



...YES, SIR
...GONE, BOTH OF
'EM ...YE-- YESSIR
...YES, SIR!

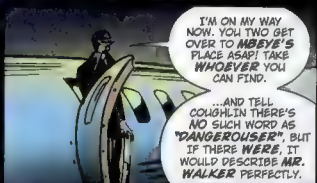
...US?
WELL, WE WERE
WATERING THE
DOG, SIR. I MEAN,
THE **WOLF**!

WELL, NOT
WATERING, YOU
KNOW WHAT I MEAN,
AND-- YES, SIR, I'M
SHUTTING UP NOW.



I'M ON MY WAY
NOW. YOU TWO GET
OVER TO **MBEYE'S**
PLACE ASAP! TAKE
WHOEVER YOU
CAN FIND.

...AND TELL
COUGHLIN THERE'S
NO SUCH WORD AS
"DANGEROUSER", BUT
IF THERE **WERE**, IT
WOULD DESCRIBE **MR.**
WALKER PERFECTLY.





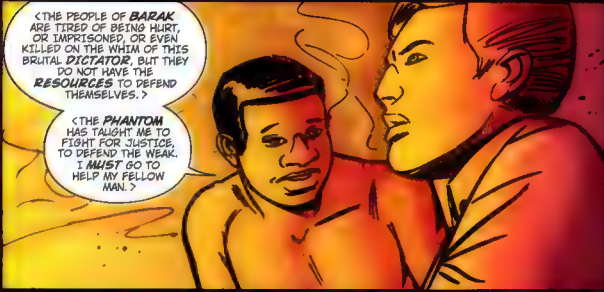
<WHEN
ARE YOU
LEAVING,
MENTE?>

<TOMORROW
MORNING,
DAWN.>

<I WISH
YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TO
GO.>

<ME, TOO.
BUT I DO. YOU
UNDERSTAND
WHY, DON'T
YOU?>

*TRANSLATED FROM BANGALLAN.



<THE PEOPLE OF **BARAK**
ARE TIRED OF BEING HURT,
OR IMPRISONED, OR EVEN
KILLED ON THE WHIM OF THIS
BRUTAL **DICTATOR**, BUT THEY
DO NOT HAVE THE
RESOURCES TO DEFEND
THEMSELVES.>

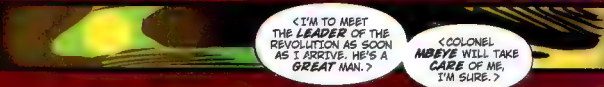
<THE **PHANTOM**
HAS TAUGHT ME TO
FIGHT FOR JUSTICE,
TO DEFEND THE WEAK.
I **MUST** GO TO
HELP MY FELLOW
MAN.>



<BESIDES,
I HEAR **BARAK**
WOMEN ARE VERY
PRETTY! MAYBE I'LL
MEET MY **WIFE**
THERE!>

<OKAY,
ROMEO! BUT
BE CAREFUL,
PLEASE!>

<I **WILL**,
MY FRIEND.
I **WILL**.>



<I'M TO MEET
THE **LEADER** OF THE
REVOLUTION AS SOON
AS I ARRIVE. HE'S A
GREAT MAN.>

<COLONEL
MBEYE WILL TAKE
CARE OF ME,
I'M SURE.>



-AKE UP,
FINALLY,
HEY?



HELLO.

PAOLO
MBEYE.

ACTUALLY,
I MUCH PREFER
THE **DRAGON**: I GAVE
MYSELF THAT NAME, YOU
KNOW. AFTER **MANY** YEARS
OF **DORMANCY**, I AWOKE,
ROSE UP FROM THE
EARTH, BREATHING
FIRE.

I LIKE
THE **IMAGERY**.
DON'T YOU?

BY
DORMANCY,
YOU MEAN **GOOD**
AND **JUST**, DON'T
YOU?

YOU'RE
INSANE.

HA HA
HA!

YOU MAY BE
RIGHT! IF POWER
AND WEALTH CAN
MAKE YOU CRAZY,
THEN I'M **MAD**
WITH IT!

YOU'LL
BE **STOPPED**,
MBEYE.

BY WHO?
YOU?!

I MEAN
DEAD! DEAD
IN SPIRIT, IN
DESIRE!

I **FOOLED** MYSELF INTO
THINKING THAT **SAMI NKOSSE** WAS
AN EVIL MAN, UNTIL I FOUND MYSELF IN
HIS WAKE, WITH HIS **POWER** AND THE
ADORATION OF THE PEOPLE.

BY
PEOPLE LIKE
MENTE OLALLA.
GOOD PEOPLE.



THAT
LITTLE
MAN?

CAN I
TELL YOU A
SECRET?

I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
WHO HE
WAS!

I DIDN'T
RECOGNIZE HIM
AT ALL IN THAT LITTLE
DINER THAT NIGHT,
BUT HE CERTAINLY
RECOGNIZED
ME!

YOU SHOULD
HAVE SEEN THE
FEAR IN HIS
EYES. IT WAS
DELICIOUS!



ARR!

WINGO!
HA HA, MY, YOU'RE
STRONG, AREN'T
YOU? STRONGER
THAN FRED MASON,
THAT'S FOR
SURE.

AH, YOU
SHOULD HAVE
SEEN HIM, CRYING
LIKE A LITTLE BABY
JUST BEFORE HE
TURNED.



YOU'RE
GOING...
WITHOUT
QUESTION.



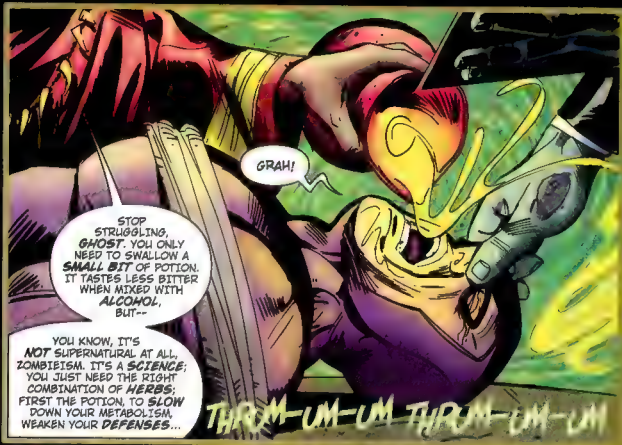
SNIIF!

HEHEH,
YOU'LL TRULY
BE "THE GHOST
WHO WALKS"!



OH, YES, I KNOW WHO
YOU ARE, OF COURSE
I DO, YOUR... LEGEND
IS SOMETHING I
ASPIRE TO.

BUT, ENOUGH
CHIT-CHAT. THERE'S
WORK TO BE DONE.
FRANCOIS, IF
YOU WILL...



STOP
STRUGGLING,
GHOST. YOU ONLY
NEED TO SWALLOW A
SMALL BIT OF POTION.
IT TASTES LESS BITTER
WHEN MIXED WITH
ALCOHOL,
BUT--

GRAH!

YOU KNOW, IT'S
NOT SUPERNATURAL AT ALL,
ZOMBIEISM. IT'S A **SCIENCE**;
YOU JUST NEED THE RIGHT
COMBINATION OF **HERBS**;
FIRST THE POTION, TO **SLOW**
DOWN YOUR METABOLISM,
WEAKEN YOUR **DEFENSES**...

THRUM-UM-UM THRUM-UM-UM



THEN THE **MIXTURE**,
IN POWDER FORM, FOLLOWED
BY SOME SIMPLE **HYPNOTISM**.
ANYONE CAN DO IT, REALLY. IT
HELPS IF THE SUBJECT **BELIEVES**
IN THE OCCULT, GOES MUCH FASTER
IF THEY THINK THEY REALLY ARE
DYING, AND THEN ARE **RAISED**
UP FROM THE DEAD.

THRUM-UM-UM
THRUM-UM-UM



BUT
EVENTUALLY,
ALL WILL
SUCCLUMB...

THRUM-UM-UM THRUM-UM-UM



MASON
DID...

YOUR
LITTLE
MENTE
DID...

THRUM-UM-UM
THRUM-UM-UM



...MENTE...

ALMOST
THERE, GHOST.
ISN'T THIS
EXCITING?

MASON WAS MY
HANDLER, BUT HE WAS
ALSO MY EMPLOYEE; I
MADE HIM A WEALTHY
MAN, BUT HE WAS WEAK.
I KNEW HE WOULD
BETRAY ME.

AND AGENT
PALMER IS A PIT
BULL. HE WON'T
STOP.

WHILE YOU ARE
BUSY KILLING HIM, I'LL
BE HEADING ELSEWHERE,
TO START FRESH. AMERICA
IS BIG, I CAN HIDE EASILY.
AND AMERICA IS A LAND OF
OPPORTUNITY, SO IT WON'T
BE LONG UNTIL I HAVE AN
ARMY OF ZOMBIES AT
MY COMMAND.

FIGHT!

THUM-UM-UM THUM-UM-UM

THEY THOUGHT
I WAS HELPING THEM,
NAMING NAMES OF DRUG
DEALERS AND TYRANTS.
THEY DIDN'T REALIZE I WAS
JUST USING THEM TO
ELIMINATE THE
COMPETITION!

WAIT! I
REMEMBER
NOW!

YOUR LITTLE
MAN WAS PART OF
A RAGTAG GROUP OF
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
WHO HELPED ME
OVERTHROW
NKOSI!

OH, MAN, THE
LOOKS ON THEIR FACES
WHEN, AFTER BECOMING
PRESIDENT, I BEGAN TO
SEE ALL THE POSSIBILITIES
OF POWER! THEY FLED
LIKE RABBITS!

THUM-UM-UM
THUM-UM-UM

THERE NOW.
ALL READY.

FIGHT!

IN A MOMENT
OR TWO, YOU'LL
SEE THE WORLD IN A
WHOLE NEW LIGHT.
IT'LL BE LIKE
BEING REBORN,
OR UNBORN,
ACTUALLY.

...BUHM-BETTA
BUHM-BETTA BUHM-
BETTA BUHM-BETTA
BUHM-BUHM!

BUHM-BETTA
BUHM-BETTA BUHM-
BETTA BUHM-BETTA
BUHM-BUHM!

FRANCOIS?



BUHM-BETTA
BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA
BETTA BUHM-BETTA
BUHM-BUHM!



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?
STOP THAT!

THUM-UM-UM-BETTA THUM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA



ALL OF YOU!
STOP THAT
INFERNAL
RACKET NOW!



FRANCOIS,
LEAVE HIM
ALONE! DON'T
TOUCH
H--



WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE?
WHAT HAVE
YOU--

BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA

BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA BUHM-BETTA



WHAM!



PAOLO MBEYE! THIS IS THE DEAL! COME OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP!

HELP ME...

BREED
BREED
BREED

JUST THIS GUY, SIR, WHO PROMISES TO GIVE UP PAOLO MBEYE IF WE "KEEP THE DOG AWAY" FROM HIM?



WE GOT A STAIRWELL HIDDEN IN THE BEDROOM CLOSET!

YEAH?!

I THOUGHT IT BEST NOT TO BE SEEN, DON.



WHERE ARE YOU?

CLOSE BY. I BORROWED SOME OF MBEYE'S CLOTHES.

YOU'LL FIND THE HERBS HE USED TO MAKE HIS CREATURES IN THE CHAMBER BELOW, ALONG WITH SOME OF HIS CREATIONS. SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE AN ANTIDOTE FOR THE POOR MEN.

AND MBEYE?



"OH, HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE, BUT YOU'D BETTER HURRY. HE MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE.

NO, NO, NOOOOOO--

"I'LL BE AT THE HOSPITAL. SOON AS YOU'RE ABLE TO RELEASE MENTE'S BODY, I'M GOING TO TAKE HIM HOME. TO BANGALLA."

"I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR YOUR HELP."

"THANK MENTE OLALLA. HE WAS A HERO."

There goes the Neighborhood...



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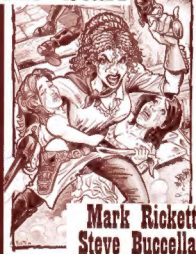
Wyatt Earp



Between a rock & a nice place!

Chuck Dixon
Enrique Villagran

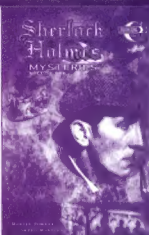
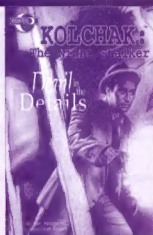
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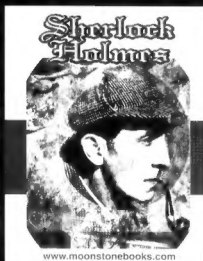
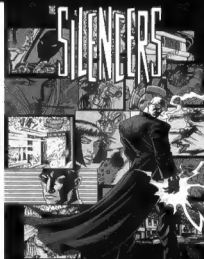


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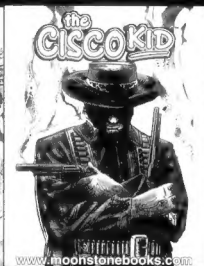
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